HAL VERB
P.O. BOX 421815
S.F., CA. 94142-1815

APRIL 6, 1996

HAROLD WEISBERG
7627 OLD RECEIVER ROAD
FREDERICK, MD. 21702

Dear Hal=

Because it getting closer and closer to income tax time (April 15th), I've been working on that and getting all my records together. I had attempted to do this last month but one thing or another just got in the way. In any event this week I'm definitely going to my accountant and get the necessary papers filled out..

Bill Mills sent me a video of the visit he made to Dealey Plaza in 1995 and I looked it over at a friend's house, since I don't have the necessary equipment to show it at my apartment. I'm not certain yet if there are scenes I can use for my book but Bill has given me permission to use anything he sends me. He seems like a real dedicated person and our conversations on the phone indicate this. I know he thinks very highly of your work.

I've told him, of course, about the specific area of the assassination I'm covering and he seemed extremely interested and offered whatever help he could.

Am enclosing some articles of interest and one, in particular, should interest you. I had not seen it before and it was sent to me recently by one of my former S.F. State students (Bruce Lewis). Lewis had not been in touch with me for virtually more than two decades and finally has been either calling me or writing. He was an excellent student when I gave my course.

The article that Bruce sent me is from "The Lebanon Democrat" (3/30/67) and deals with the fatal head shot. I know that you mentioned him in "Post Mortem" (I believe) and I, too, have referred to Stewart in an article I did for one of the assassination issues. Gary Aguilar, in fact, called Stewart after I sent him my article referring to Stewart. Some, of course, what Stewart has to say in the article about Ruby and Oswald is pure guesswork on his part but the medical reportage is what is significant. (DR. STEWART)

The other articles I've enclosed are self-explanatory so I've nothing to add to them but they are yours to keep.

Now I want to get into something you mentioned to me in your last letter (dated 3/9/96). In your letter you wrote = "You ask why so many heard the first shot. Is this the real first shot or the first they heard?"

I'm not exactly clear on what you meant in this last sentence. I do mean the "real first shot" which I believe came from the knoll area and behind Zapruder and is evidenced in the Zapruder film in frames Z-189 to Z-191. I do not buy any earlier shot prior to these frames such as proposed either by the HSCA, Groden or Posner...

My purpose in ~~saying~~ asking "why so many heard this (Z189 to 191) shot is = if that shot were fired by

the use of a silencer why is this shot heard & heard loudly. I'm not stating that this first shot was done by a silencer but it's a variant possibility I might suggest in my book. The problem I have is why — if a silencer was used — so many heard it & heard it as a loud report (I do know that many described it as having a "firecracker" sound but I'm not sure if this helps or hinders the possibility of silencers being used.

I assume that when you wrote to me (in the latter part of your second sentence that the "first they heard" may refer to a shot (or shots) fired after the first real shot (Z189 to Z191) but if I'm mistaken on this please let me know.

And speaking about silencers, I recall that somewhere I read (it may have been in one of your books) that Linda Willis thought a silencer could've been used. Am I mistaken on this but my memory is fairly accurate that one of the Willis daughters did say this?

Bill O'Neil, whom I'm sure has been in touch with you, recently returned from a trip to New Orleans. He's got some very interesting things to say about Oswald and the right-wing contacts he made while Oswald lived in that area. Bill's own analysis blows sky-high the desperate attempts of the Warren Commission to make Oswald out to be a "lefty". (How come Newman never picked up on this in his book "Oswald & the CIA" & did Newman believe the CIA's interest was only in "known" lefties?).

Hope everything is fine with you. And after my tax return I'll get back to work on my book.

Best,
Hal